

# NILES LAUNCHES THREE MILLION DOLLAR IMPROVEMENT BOOM

## CITY'S PROGRESS IN PAST 10 YEARS HAS BEEN UNIQUE

Population of Michigan Metropolis Has Nearly Doubled in Decade.

BY C. J. COOPER.

"Niles is the biggest little city in the world."

Whenever Mayor Fred N. Bonine makes this statement about his home city, he usually pauses a moment and then goes on in detail to prove its truth.

The 1920 federal census gave Niles a population of a little more than 7,000 inhabitants. Today it is conservatively estimated that more than 9,000 men, women and children reside within the city's corporate limits. Ten years ago Niles' population was around 5,000. This will give some idea of the growth of the city.

But this growth in population has not been the only growth in Niles during the past 10 years. Today there are 27 industrial plants operating within its borders, turning out 26 diversified products at an aggregate annual output valued at more than \$9,000,000.

**Large Freight Terminal.**  
This city has within its borders the largest single freight terminal yards between Chicago and New York, constructed at a cost of more than \$2,500,000 and normally employing in the neighborhood of 1,600 well paid men.

But Niles' industrial growth has not reached its end. Manufacturing concerns from other states, including Chicago, are now seeking sites here. The city's transportation facilities and its geographical location appeal to manufacturers seeking new and more promising locations.

And although Niles now has the largest single freight terminal yards between Chicago and New York, the Michigan Central Railroad Co. already has the plans and specifications prepared for doubling the present size of these yards at a probable cost of more than \$2,000,000, and expects to begin construction on at least part of the additional terminal yards soon after the first of the year. When completed, these additional yards will give employment to at least 800 more men.

**Half Million Hotel.**  
Then in the coming expansion of the city's industrial world and the doubling in size and capacity of its present railroad yards, Niles is about to erect a modern hotel at a cost of nearly \$500,000. In fact, construction upon the new hotel building is expected to start during the present month.

But this is not all. The board of education is planning to build additions to the present Niles High school building costing approximately \$300,000. In fact, the bonds for the proposed additions have already been authorized, and the board of education has already advertised for bids for the work.

In other words, Niles is planning to expend within the immediate future nearly \$3,000,000 in public and private improvements in the city. These \$3,000,000 to be expended in private and public improvements do not include what is to be spent by the city during the coming year in street and sewer improvements.

**Paving Projects.**  
Already the city council has laid out a comprehensive program in street paving and sewer building to begin during the early part of next spring. Niles now has many miles of improved streets, but the growth and expansion of the city call for more. Realizing there is to be a heavy demand during the coming year for street improvement work, city officials have asked property owners desiring streets paved to present the necessary petitions asking for such work as soon as possible in order that there will be no delay caused by the need for preliminary work when the time for doing actual paving work arrives.

In other words, Niles feels the approach of prosperity. Whether the country returns to what President Harding calls "normalcy" or not this city proposes to continue its growth and advancement. Its officials are endeavoring to work hand in hand with the other interests of the community for the growth and advancement of the whole community.

There seems to be something about Niles that causes its inhabitants to always endeavor to advance the city's interests. And this something seems to follow those who give up their residence and move elsewhere. John and Horace Dodge were once Niles residents.

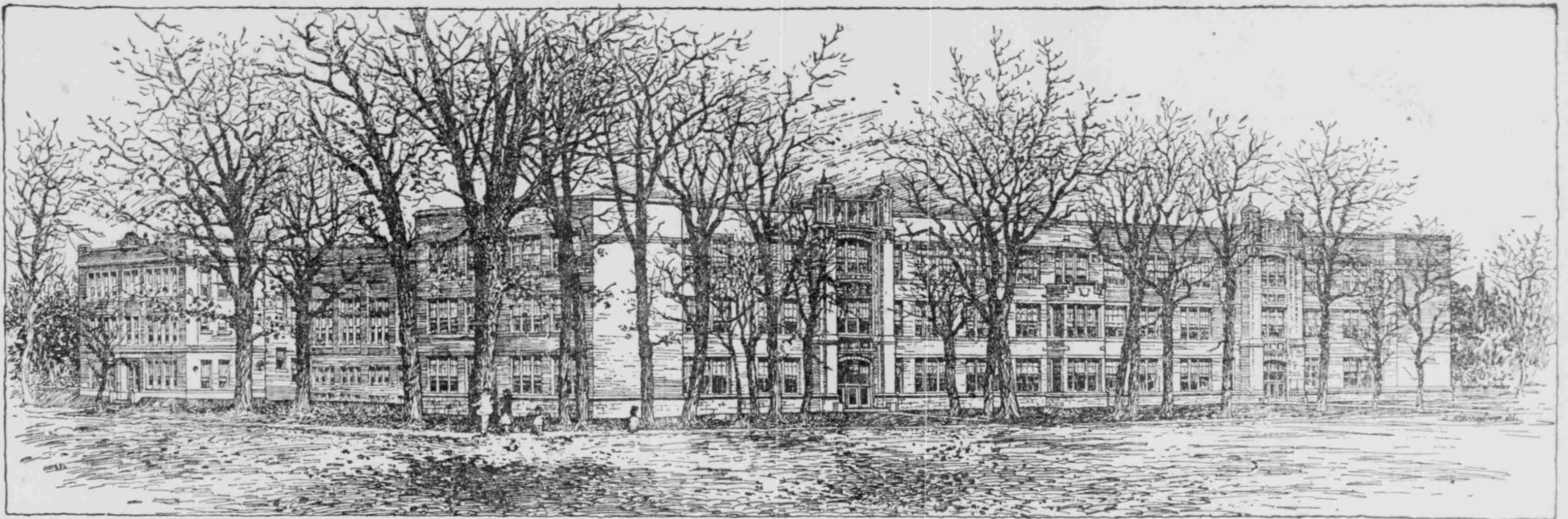
**New Homes.**  
They moved away, still their love for the little city nestling along the banks of the picturesque and historic St. Joseph river was so great that they loaned a half million dollars with which to carry on building activities in the community.

And now that John and Horace Dodge are dead, their estate, with the same patriotic spirit displayed by the two brothers, has recently taken over 47 houses built in Niles at the time the railroad terminal yards were constructed here by the Michigan Central Railroad Co. and is putting into these dwellings the modern touches omitted by the builders and is preparing to put them on the market at reasonable rental and purchase prices.

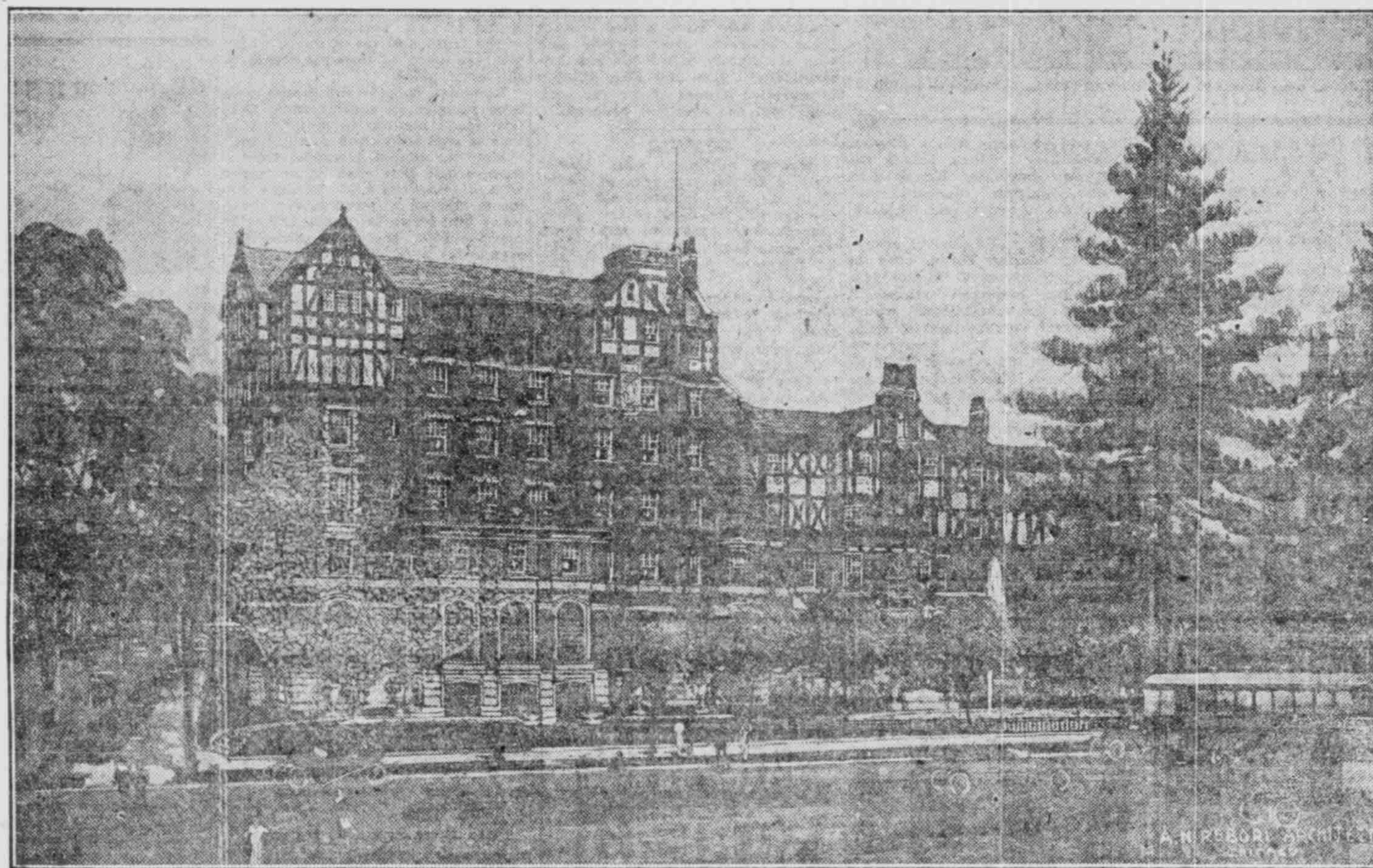
The estate of the late Dodge Brothers, which is known as the Dodge Brothers Realty Co., of Detroit, Mich., is now spending upwards of \$15,000 in fully completing these 47 houses and placing them on the rental and purchase market at such figures that will greatly aid in alleviating Niles' housing congestion, a congestion that is characteristic of practically every city in the United States that has at all kept pace with the march of progress.

**Country Club.**  
And it is the same something that caused a Niles manufacturer, F. J. Fynn, to donate to the city a large tract of land, fully equipped with a golf course, an athletic field and a handsome club house to be used as

## The Big High School Building and \$500,000 Hotel for the City



PROPOSED NEW HIGH AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ADDITIONS TO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL AT NILES, MICHIGAN



These are the architect's plans of what Niles' New Hotel will be when completed at a cost of nearly a half million dollars.

a "popular country club," and it is still possible to say the true life of the citizens of Niles to accept this gift of Mr. Fynn in the spirit it was offered and to form an association of citizens of every station in the life of the community to govern the park and to see that the ideal of the donor is not lost.

And again, it is this same something that caused prominent Niles citizens to meet half way the heirs of former residents of the community to erect a half million dollar hotel on the site of the estate of the former residents by subscribing thousands of dollars for stock in the company that will build and operate the hotel.

Niles citizens are proud of their city, of its growth, of its advancement and they are sure of its future. They are not only proud of its industrial plants, of its business houses and of its other institutions, but they are also proud of its physical beauty.

**Natural Beauty.**  
This city has long been famous for the beauty nature has bestowed upon it. One of the most attractive things about Niles to the stranger is its tree lined streets. And these trees, which are maple and elm, are jealously guarded by the city authorities.

"I am opposed to cutting down any tree in the city where it is at all possible to save the tree's life," Mayor Bonine recently told the members of the city council when a request was presented to the city's legislative body for permission to cut down a tree that a resident believed had outlived its usefulness either for shade or attractiveness. The members of the council agreed with the mayor and it is interesting to record that a way was found to save that particular tree's life.

Probably one of the causes for Niles' steady growth and for the real community spirit that appears to exist in the city is that there has always been an absence of labor troubles here. Nearly 90 percent of the city's population is composed of American citizens, and at least 75 percent of Niles residents own their own homes.

**Cooperative Spirit.**  
Unlike many communities, there seems to be a real cooperative spirit between the manufacturing interests, business men and the general public here. There appears to be an absence of those petty squabbles between different interests to be found in many cities. Niles has a commercial club whose membership takes in a larger percentage of the men of the community than is found in like organizations in other cities. The city also has an Exchange club, which is composed of a limited membership of the younger business and industrial men of the city. The membership in the Exchange

club is purposely limited to one representative of any class of business or industry. There is also a Rotary club here, which like the Niles Commercial club and the Exchange club, has the growth and advancement of the city at heart.

There appears to be no petty rivalry among these three organizations. Instead they work in cooperation for the betterment of the community. Frequently the three organizations will be found united as one organization in some movement for the community good.

**Heart of Fruit Belt.**  
Niles is fortunate that farmers play a great part in the city's life. The city is surrounded by a fertile farming country, and is located in the heart of the Michigan fruit belt.

Berrien county, with its 300 miles of hard surface roads, is known throughout Michigan for its good highways. These highways give the farmers an easy entrance into Niles, which has made its streets conform to the good roads throughout the county.

And Berrien county farmers, particularly those in the Niles vicinity, are demonstrating their progressiveness. Their interests in civic and economic affairs have been awakened and they have become a power in the community. They are no longer a credit seeking class in Niles. Farmers and farming were under discussion at a recent meeting of the members of the board of directors of the Niles Commercial club.

**Farmers Prosperous.**  
"I wonder if you have noticed the change among farmers lately?" asked one member of the directorate and who is also a prominent Niles merchant, doing a heavy trade among farmers.

"It was not so very long ago," continued this prominent merchant, "that whenever you sold anything to a farmer, you expected to give him long time credit. It was natural for you to expect him to ask credit, and you gave it to him without question. But it is not that way now. The farmer almost always pays cash for what he buys, and it is very seldom credit is asked, and if it is it is only for a short time, not any longer than the time usually asked for by any other class of purchaser."

And another thing about Niles is that the women of the community all are interested in the city's progress. The Woman's Progressive league, through its various committees, some of which work with the city council and the Chamber of Commerce, has done much for the betterment and advancement of the community.

**Real Progressiveness.**  
The health of the city has been improved, its physical attractiveness has been improved and a better community spirit has been created

through the work of the Woman's Progressive league.

The church life of the city has also kept pace with the trend of progress. Practically every denomination is represented, yet a tolerant spirit is found to predominate in this department of the city's life.

Niles' public schools, with its various modern educational departments, is such as to win the commendation of Michigan state educational officials.

"If the other schools of the state would follow Niles' example in progressiveness, there would be little room for complaint throughout the state," one high state official remarked recently after a visit to the Niles schools.

In short, Niles is a thriving American community that safely weathered the recent depression throughout the nation, and is now prepared to ride the crest of the coming prosperity wave.

**Capitol Punishment.**  
"How do you spell income tax?" "I don't know, but it is pronounced with a short 'I'."—Way-side Tales.

### Ends Stubborn Coughs in a Hurry

For real effectiveness, this old home-made remedy has no equal. Easily and cheaply prepared.

You'll never know how quickly a bad cough can be conquered, until you try this famous old home-made remedy. Anyone who has coughed all day and all night, will say that the immediate relief given is almost like magic. It is very easily prepared, and there is nothing better for coughs.

Into a pint bottle, put 2½ ounces of Pinex; then add plain granulated sugar syrup to make a full pint. Or you can use clarified molasses, honey, or corn syrup, instead of sugar syrup. Either way, the full pint saves about two-thirds of the money usually spent for cough preparations, and gives you a more positive, effective remedy. It keeps perfectly, and tastes pleasant—children like it. You can feel this take hold instantly, soothing and healing the membranes in all the air passages. It promptly loosens a dry, tight cough, and soon you will notice the phlegm thin out and disappear. A day's use will usually break up an ordinary throat or chest cold, and it is also splendid for bronchitis, croup, hoarseness, and bronchial asthma.

Pinex is a most valuable concentrated compound of genuine Norway pine extract, the most reliable remedy for throat and chest ailments. To avoid disappointment, ask your druggist for "2½ ounces of Pinex" with directions and don't accept anything else. Guaranteed to give absolute satisfaction or money refunded. The Pinex Co., Ft. Wayne, Ind.

**The Forgetting.**  
"I believe in forgetting injuries!"  
"That's all right to forget an injury; but don't forget that you have forgotten it!"—Way-side Tales.

**Ready to Substitute!**  
She—I'm just going to hug the fireplace when we get in the parlor!  
He—Why do that? I'm a brick!—Way-side Tales.

## COLDS

"Pape's Cold Compound" Breaks any Cold in a Few Hours

Don't stay stuffed-up! Quit blowing and snuffling! A dose of "Pape's Cold Compound" taken every two hours until three doses are taken usually breaks up a cold and ends all grippe misery.

The first dose opens clogged-up nostrils and air passages of head, stops nose running; relieves headache, dullness feverishness, sneezing.

"Pape's Cold Compound" is the quickest, surest relief known and costs only a few cents at drug stores. It acts without assistance. Tastes nice. Contains no quinine. Insist upon Pape's—Adv.



## Winter Is Here

Cut down your fuel cost. We have a supply of Gas Heaters on hand to help you. Fireplace Heaters, Portable Room Heaters and the Gasteam Radiators to suit any home with prices to suit any income.

Call at our salesroom for demonstration or ask for salesman to call at your home.

Northern Indiana Gas & Electric Company  
219 NORTH MICHIGAN STREET

## MOTHER! Clean Child's Bowels With "California Fig Syrup"

Even a sick child loves the "fruity" taste of "California Fig Syrup." If the little tongue is coated, or if your child is listless, cross, feverish, full of cold, or has colic, give a teaspoonful to cleanse the liver and bowels. In a few hours you can see for yourself how thoroughly it works all the constipation, sour bile and waste out of the bowels, and you have a well, playful child again.

Millions of mothers keep "California Fig Syrup" handy. They know a teaspoonful today saves a sick child tomorrow. Ask your druggist for genuine "California Fig Syrup" which has directions for babies and children of all ages printed on the bottle. Mother! You must say "California" or you may get an imitation fig syrup.—Adv.

## For Firm Flesh and That Healthy Glow of Youthful Beauty

Women Everywhere Now Take Mastin's Yeast Vitamon Tablets To Put On Firm Flesh, Clear The Skin Aid Digestion and Correct Constipation

Every woman who has heard of the wondrous health and beauty-making power of vitamins now has the opportunity of finding out for herself just what truly amazing results she may obtain by getting all of the three equally important vitamins concentrated and combined in the convenient and easy-to-take form known as MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS.

Vitamins are wonderful, life-giving, health-building elements contained in many raw foods, but they are often lost in the process of cooking before the foods ever reach you. There are three classes of vitamins and all three are regarded by Scientists as necessary for perfect health, vigor and proper physical development.

MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS contain all three vitamins, highly concentrated, together with other such valuable tonics as Calcium, Glycophosphate, nux vomica and peptonate of iron. So great has been the success of these tiny tablets in quickly building up weakened, nervous, run-down folks and putting the system in fine condition that they are today being used by millions.

MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS seem to banish pimples, boils and many unsightly skin eruptions as if by magic and under their influence the skin and complexion become radiantly clear and beautiful. They do not upset the stomach or cause a bloated feeling; on the contrary they aid digestion and by acting in a natural way as a general conditioner of the whole system help to put on firm flesh, correct constipation and increase energy.

Important! While the amazing health-building value of MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS has been clearly and positively demonstrated in cases of lack of energy, anemia, indigestion, constipation, skin eruptions, poor complexion and a generally weakened physical condition, they should not be used by anyone who OBJECTS to having their weight increased to NORMAL. Be sure to remember the name MASTIN'S VITAMON—the original and genuine yeast-vitamine tablet—there is nothing else like it so do not accept imitations or substitutes. The name MASTIN'S on the yellow and black packages is your protection. You can get MASTIN'S VITAMON at all good druggists, such as

Are Positively Guaranteed to Put On Firm Flesh, Clear the Skin and Increase Energy When Taken With Every Meal or Money Back.

MASTIN'S VITAMON TABLETS

THE ORIGINAL TABLETS YEAST VITAMON TABLETS GENUINE

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Wettick's, at all Frueh & Thomas stores, Otto Bastian, Freshafer's

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